

Last week, I introduced House Resolution 519, which supports the ideals and goals of this day. November 25th is the start of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, which ends on December 10th—Human Rights Day.

Time and time again, in periods of conflict and natural disaster, the most unspeakable cruelties are inflicted on the bodies of women and children. Whether in the house or in conflict zones; whether by soldiers or by intimate partners—violence against women and girls is an ongoing cycle and a global threat which must be eliminated.

Violence against women and girls are public health issues and egregious violations of human rights. The facts are startling. Worldwide, 35 percent of women have experienced either intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in their lifetime. 120 million girls worldwide have experienced sexual assault at some point in their lives. And according to the World Health Organization, women aged 15–44 are more at risk from rape and domestic violence, than cancer, car accidents, war, and malaria.

In addition, women and girls are disproportionately impacted by natural disasters. Displacement settings exacerbate preexisting inequalities, render women and girls even more vulnerable, and create greater barriers in their ability to benefit from relief, recovery, and long-term reconstruction and development efforts. As we saw during the humanitarian crises in the Philippines, Nepal, Haiti, and the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, women and children are the most vulnerable populations to sexual violence and human trafficking.

Violence upon, and trafficking of, women are the worst kind of atrocities. As we have seen in Rwanda and Bosnia-Herzegovina, and the Liberian refugee camps, sexual violence was rampant. Today, ISIL forces are systematically raping and violating Yezidi women and girls. In addition, since the beginning of Syria's conflict, reports have revealed patterns of gender-based violence perpetrated by both regime and opposition forces. Sadly, rapes in the Syrian refugee camps have also been reported.

This violence must stop. Once and for all.

Mr. Speaker, whether on the battlefield or in post-disaster areas, in the household or workplace; whether in refugee camps or sexual enslavement camps—violence against women and children must be recognized and stopped around the world.

Even though we recognize November 25th as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, we should fight every day to end this violence against human rights.

THE INSTALLATION OF BISHOP
MICHAEL CURRY

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, as a lifelong Episcopalian, I am filled with pride over the installation of Bishop Michael Curry, the first African-American leader of the U.S. Episcopal Church. His historic election comes at a challenging time in history for both the nation and the church. In response, Bishop Curry has valiantly pledged to take up “the serious work of racial reconciliation” in his new role and to strive for the “beloved community,” envisioned by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. At a time when all denominations are struggling to rebuild declining memberships, his focus on both evangelism and inclusion marks an exciting new chapter for our church. I am supremely confident that he is up to both tasks.

I recently had the honor of welcoming to my Capitol Hill office the Right Rev. Peter Eaton, who is the new bishop coadjutor of the Episcopal Diocese in Southeast Florida. He met with me and our own House of Representatives chaplain, my friend, the Rev. Patrick J. Conroy. Bishop Eaton comes to us from St. John's Cathedral in Denver, Colorado, and I look forward to helping him get to know our church community.

May God shine His light on both Bishop Curry and Bishop Eaton as they embrace their new vocations.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM J.
CALLAGHAN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of Mr. William “Bill” Callaghan. He passed away November 16, 2015, at the Veterans Affairs (VA) Central Iowa Health Care System. Bill was the son of John Francis “Jack” Callaghan. Jack was the founding Director of the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy and longtime servant to the people of Iowa and Nebraska in the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

Bill carried on this tradition of service to our nation entering the Army in 1970 serving in the 4th Infantry Division in the Vietnam War. After serving in Vietnam, Bill came back to Omaha to earn his Juris Doctor (JD) at Creighton Law School. He served as a Prosecuting Attorney in Webster City and Ottumwa, IA before becoming the Law Instructor at the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy in 1984, where he served for 26 years impacting the lives of thousands of officers through his Iowa Criminal Code and United States Code classes.

Bill married Jeanette Wagner in 1985 and they were blessed with a son, John R. Callaghan. Both Jeanette and John R. survive him. Jeanette is a retired music teacher and John, following in his father's footsteps, is a Sergeant in the 4th Infantry Division of the United States Army, stationed at Ft. Carson, CO.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by Mr. William J. Callaghan and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. I am honored to represent great Iowans like Bill in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in honoring his memory.